

A MEXICAN LOVE AFFAIR

By SHEILA ESTHER DUNN

Don Martin Furtado, a Mexican gentleman of forty and a bachelor, drew a goodly sum of money from the bank and gave it to Dona Isabel Mendoza, his fiancée, for the purpose of buying the necessary furniture and the trousseau. This may be surprising to those of other countries where the bride is expected to furnish her own bridal outfit and quite often provides the home, though in Europe this may be done with the dowry which is always supposed to go with the wife. In Mexico the groom furnishes both furniture and trousseau.

Don Martin's fiancée was just half his age and was for a time undecided between him and a young man a couple of years her senior, Jose Herrera. But as Jose was equally poor there seemed to be no possibility of their marrying. One day Jose proposed a plan by which they might raise the wherewithal for their union. He suggested that Isabel engage herself to Don Martin long enough to secure the trousseau and the furniture, then just before the wedding tell him she had discovered that she did not love him. It was probable that Don Martin would not permit her to return the gifts, for he was a gentleman and known to be a very liberal man.

Just how Dona Isabel received this proposition within her heart does not appear, but certain it is that she agreed to it. Don Martin had proposed to her several times, and on the next similar occasion he was surprised to be accepted. He told her that she had made him very happy, but that he did not wish to buy a wife—he desired one who would love him. If therefore at any time before their marriage she felt that she preferred another man or that she did not love him he would resign her.

The next day Jose came to see her, and she told him that she had accepted Don Martin and what her elderly lover had said to her. Jose asked what she had replied to his expression of willingness to resign her in case she discovered that she did not love him.

She said she had answered he need not fear for her marrying him without love; that, she promised, she would never do. Jose laughed at this, declaring that she was a tramp and was working the old fellow beautifully. He was about to give her a kiss, but she held him off, saying that so long as she was engaged to Don Martin she would be true to him. It would be time enough for kisses when she had broken with him and engaged herself to Jose.

Having received the means for the trousseau and the furniture, Dona Isabel proceeded to the dressmaker and milliner for the former and asked Don Martin to go with her to select the latter. But he told her to buy what she liked and if the purchase money overran the sum he had sent her he would make it up.

Isabel was several months buying a wedding outfit; then Don Martin one day asked her if she would name the day. But she was not to hurry, and he reminded her of her promise not to marry him without love. At this Isabel appeared very thoughtful and said nothing. Don Martin at this assumed that her conscience was pricking her and said:

"Consider yourself released from your engagement. Moreover, the gifts I have made I shall expect you to keep, for on no account would I receive them if you returned them."

"Not if I were to marry another?"

"If you marry another consider it a wedding gift from me."

When Isabel told this to Jose he was delighted and asked her if she could not stick the old fellow for something more. She promised to see about it. Jose asked her to set the day when she would marry him, and she fixed it for that day three months hence.

A month before Jose was to marry Isabel one of his friends told him that he had heard that Isabel was to be married on the day fixed for his and her wedding.

"Oh, that isn't announced yet," replied Jose. "You must not say anything about it."

"How do you know?"

"I should think I would know since I am to be the groom."

"You?"

"Yes, I."

"I did not hear that," said his friend. "I heard that she was to marry Don Martin Furtado."

"That's another affair that my fiancée had some time ago. She was engaged to Don Martin for awhile. But keep this matter to yourself."

As his wedding day drew near Jose scraped together all the money he could and borrowed an amount to be paid by a mortgage on his furniture to be made the day after the wedding. One day the postman left an envelope for him, and, opening it, he found an invitation to the wedding of Dona Isabel Mendoza to Don Martin Furtado. For a moment he thought it a part of the ruse. But the invitation was duly engraved, and it occurred to Jose that he had been victimized. He rushed to Dona Isabel's house and breathlessly asked her what it meant.

"It means," she said, "that I loved you, who proposed to get a trick by a noble man the means to marry me. Your contemptible conduct turned me from you, and Don Martin's magnanimous action won me to him. Goodbye. You are welcome to my wedding. After that I wish never to see you again."

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Running Into Scalp. Hot and Itching. Scales Formed. Had to Cut Hair. Cuticura Soap and Ointment Cured in Two Weeks.

Somerville, N. J. — "My daughter's ringworm was quite obstinate. First a red spot appeared on her cheek and another just behind the ear, running into her scalp about the size of a dime. They were hot and itching. Scales formed and caused her to scratch, which made it inflamed and sometimes drew the blood. I tried — and —



salve, but it kept growing. I had to cut the hair from the ringworm that ran into the scalp. It must have been of two weeks' standing as it had grown to a good size, when I got my husband to get me a sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment. I washed it with hot water and Cuticura Soap then applied the Cuticura Ointment. The first application benefited her. When my sample was used I saw it was not so large and angry, so I bought a box of Cuticura Ointment, and a cake of Cuticura Soap and applied them three times a day. The constant use for four or five days checked its growth and in two weeks more she was entirely cured. Cuticura Soap and Ointment also cured my son in two weeks of a case of ringworm." (Signed) Mrs. A. E. Neville, Dec. 19, 1911. Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment are sold throughout the world. A single set is often sufficient. Liberal sample of each mailed free, with 32-p. Skin Book. Address post-card "Cuticura, Dept. T, Boston."

★Tender-faced men should use Cuticura Soap Shaving Stick, 25c. Sample free.

BORAX PRODUCTION LARGE.

Nearly Entire Output Credited to California—Value of 1911 Production Was \$1,569,151.

According to the United States geological survey, there was considerable increase in the production of borax in the United States in 1911 over that of 1910, the output for last year being 33,330 short tons, valued at \$1,569,151, as compared with 42,337 tons in 1910, valued at \$1,201,842. The quantities stated, however, represent the crude materials mined. This crude ore, now being mined in California, which state furnished practically the entire production of borax of the United States, is almost entirely colemanite, which is borax of lime. As mined the product varies considerably in its content of anhydrous borax acid.

Borax lake and lake Hachinham, two small lakes near Clear lake in California, about 80 miles north of San Francisco, first produced borax on a commercial scale in 1864. At first borax was obtained by evaporating the lake water, but this method was later supplemented by collecting and washing the natural borax crystals which were found imbedded in the mud on the bottom of the lake.

Still later the so-called marsh or dry-lake borax deposits were discovered, a considerable number of which were developed in western Nevada. Fish Lake, Columbus, Rhodes, and Teals marshes, in southwestern Nevada near the California line, Seales Dry lake, Cane lake, Saline Valley, and Death Valley, in California, were among the places where the more important deposits of this type were mined. Many of these marshes were far from lines of transportation when borax was first shipped from them, and the product was generally hauled to the railroad by horse or mule teams over long roads through the desert.

The borax industry was established on essentially its present basis when the bedded deposits of the calcium borate mineral colemanite were first found in Death Valley in 1881 and in the following year at Calico, about 5 miles from Daguerre, Cal. Borax and borate acid are now derived wholly from these deposits of borate of lime, the mineral colemanite, furnishing practically all the output. Since these colemanite mines have been worked on a large scale the marsh or dry lake deposits have been neglected. Instead of being crystallized from mixtures of other salts obtained from marsh deposits, borax is now made exclusively in the refineries of the large borax companies in California and at eastern points.

The production of borax in 1911 was the largest in the history of the United States, except that for 1906, when the output was 58,173 short tons, but the value of the production in 1911 was greater.

A copy of the report on the production of borax in 1911 by Charles G. Yale and Hoyt S. Gale, just issued by the United States geological survey, may be obtained from upon application to the Director at Washington, D. C.

A Dainty Toilet Article.

Every lady who desires to keep up her attractive appearance, while at theatre, attending receptions, when shopping, while traveling and on all occasions should carry in her purse a booklet of Gouard's Oriental Beauty Leaves. This is a dainty little booklet of exquisitely perfumed powdered leaves, which are easily removed and applied to the skin. It is invaluable when the face becomes moist and flushed, and is far superior to a powder puff, as it does not spill and soil the clothes.

It removes dirt, soot and grease from the face, imparting a cool, delicate bloom to the complexion. Put up in white and pink and sent anywhere on receipt of 10 cents in stamp or coin. F. T. Hopkins, 37 Great Jones street, New York.

History to Burn.

Teacher—"What happened after George Washington chopped down the cherry tree?"

Pupil—"Well, after he chopped it down, I guess he chopped it up."

August Woman's Home Companion.

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As you ladies will see, it is a joy to the touch. It is so harmless to the skin that it can be used by the most delicate of women. It is so effective that it is a joy to the touch.

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FLAT RATE ON INTANGIBLES

Urged by State Senator John W. Gordon at Richford

TO SETTLE TAX PROBLEM

At the Same Time the Speaker Considered the Other Two Remedies Which Have Been Advanced as a Solution.

Richford, Aug. 17.—A Republican rally was held at the Opera house last evening, the speakers being Frank E. Howe of Bennington, candidate for lieutenant-governor, and John W. Gordon of Barre, state senator for Washington county.

The last-named speaker devoted most of his attention to Vermont's taxation evils, and after considering those evils he considered the three remedies proposed and urged upon his hearers the value of that remedy which places a flat rate on intangibles.

On this matter Mr. Gordon said: "Three remedies have been most considered: First, the abolition of offsets; second, the exemption of mortgages from taxation bearing a low rate of interest; third, a uniform or flat rate on intangibles."

"The theory of the abolition of offsets is that a sum equal to our offsets would be added to the tax list, and that adding this sum to the list would lower the rate of taxation, and that the fraud alleged to exist under the cover of our offset law would be prevented. If these results would follow the abolition of offsets, considerable relief would be obtained."

"But would they follow to the extent expected? It is true that if you added the \$2,734,945.00 of the offsets of 1910 to the assessed valuation of \$207,040,545.00 you would have the sum of \$239,775,491.00, one per cent of which would give you a grand list of \$2,397,754.00. This would reduce the average rate of taxation for the state from \$1.79 to \$1.55 on the list of 1910, or 24c on a dollar of the grand list. But if the rate of \$1.55 could be obtained in this way, it is doubtful if it would bring back the individual lender in view of the convenience and security afforded by the banks. But that rate could not be obtained in a large number of towns in which the rate is above the average of \$1.79."

"In 1878, when the present method of taxing bank deposits was adopted, the average rate for the state was about \$1.25. In 1885, or six years after that method went into operation, the average for the state was a fraction over \$1.25, but in 1890 it had risen to about \$1.52, and in 1910 to \$1.79. It probably exceeds \$1.80 for 1912."

"This rise of the rate is not confined to our state. It has taken place in all the states. In 1890 it averaged 78c throughout the country and in 1902 it had risen to \$2.05. In 1910, therefore, our state tax rate was 26c lower than the average for the country."

"As a means of preventing fraud, we believe that the abolition of offsets would be disappointing, for it would increase the evils of double taxation and the motives for evading taxes. Only a part, too, of the offsets would be added to the list, and the rate would be lowered enough to give much relief. The relief would be entirely in the towns of a low local tax rate."

The Second Remedy.

"The second remedy proposed is to exempt mortgages bearing some low rate of interest. The prohibitionists in their platform fix the rate for exemption at 4 1/2 per cent. In 1911 New Hampshire adopted this method of exempting mortgages on land if the rate of interest does not exceed five per cent. The prime object of this law is to help the borrower by giving him a low rate of interest and thereby stimulating land development. Accurate data is not accessible for a clear discussion of this method. No one has given it a sufficient trial to test its merits."

"If the bank deposits invested in mortgages on land in the state are exempted, you would exempt fifteen and one-half millions of dollars, according to the bank report of 1910, and lose over \$108,000 of taxes now coming into the state treasury from this source. If depositors should withdraw these deposits and invest them, you would still lose this amount of tax."

"If we estimate the mortgages outside of those held by banks at one-half of our present offsets, the town treasuries would lose the taxes on \$10,000,000. At the average rate of taxation of \$1.79 on a dollar of the grand list, the town treasuries would lose \$226,400. To make up this sum to the town treasuries would increase the town tax rate 13 1/2c. To make up the loss of \$108,000 to the state treasury would require a direct tax of 3-10c. The two losses together would require a direct tax of 19 1/2c, which would jump the average rate of taxation up to \$2.00."

"The average grand list of our towns is \$8,416,000. The average town, therefore, at the rate of 19 1/2c would have to raise \$1,657.00 to make up the deficit of mortgage exemption."

"Suppose the proposition were reversed and each town was asked to levy a tax of 19 1/2c on its list to be paid to mortgagees. This is exactly the same thing in effect as the prohibitionists propose to do, only the sugar is taken off the pill so that you can taste the bitterness as you swallow. The method would shift, not equalize, burdens, for one man's exemption is another's burden."

"As you will see, we estimate the mortgages to be exempted at only thirty-one and one-half millions of dollars. These figures are, no doubt, far below the real amount. The commission on taxation in 1908 estimated mortgages on land in 1907 to be about fifty millions. Taking their estimate as a basis you would have to increase our estimated deficit and the rate for replacement by more than 50 per cent. The result ought to make a prohibitionist stagger, even if he is a teetotaler. The anticipated benefits, too, from increased development are problematical and all the evils that we now suffer from the

evasion of taxes on intangibles would remain.

The Third Remedy.

"The third remedy is to place a uniform or flat rate, as we do with savings bank deposits, on all intangibles, such as cash, notes, mortgages, bonds and credits. For this remedy, we have as a guide the experience of sister states. We would not be trading an unexplored path of experiment. About 30 years ago Pennsylvania adopted the method of taxing intangibles at the rate of four mills on the fair cash value. In 1883 her taxes on intangibles amounted to only \$145,300,000. In 1907, 22 years later, they had risen to \$1,014,000, which was more than a six-fold increase. During substantially the same period Ohio followed a system of taxing intangibles like ours. And with what result? In 1881 she had \$130,000,000 of taxed intangibles; in 1906, 25 years later, she had only \$147,900,000, an actual decrease of \$82,100,000."

"In 1886 Maryland passed a law taxing intangibles at the low rate of 4 1/2 mills. In 1886 the assessed value of intangibles in the city of Baltimore was \$6,000,000; in 1907, 11 years later, they had risen to \$150,900,000. Think of it! Maryland with a population of 508,967 (census of 1900) has \$3,000,000 more securities in her tax list than the great state of Ohio with a population of 4,137,743. With a more drastic and more inquisitorial system of taxation than ours, Ohio could not find as many intangibles among 4,000,000 as Baltimore with a low flat rate could among one-fourth as many people. Under the Ohio law an informer or spy was given a commission for discovering property illegally omitted from the list."

"The Massachusetts commission which visited Ohio reported that to all inquiries about the taxation of personal property in Ohio the uniform reply was: 'We are a state of liars and perjurers. Our law compels us to make a return of our personal property and to pay a tax ranging from two to four per cent upon the full cash value. No man can or will pay such an exorbitant tax, and the result is that practically every man defends himself from spoliation and confiscation by perjury on his soul. You cannot overstate the situation. No words can do justice to the inequities of our present system. The estates of widows and orphans pay one-half of their income. A few over-conscientious citizens may pay the greater proportion of theirs; but the general result is that the owner of money, credits and securities either leaves the state or makes a false return to the assessor. Our present system is a school of dishonesty and perjury.'"

"We may not like to admit it, but who is bold enough to deny, that the experience of Ohio has been repeated in Vermont. In the 23 years from 1887 to 1910, our listed personal property diminished nearly \$5,000,000, while listed real estate increased nearly \$34,000,000. Is there anyone so simple as to believe that these figures tell the truth? If we have grown poorer in personal property, we have done likewise in real estate. The increase or diminution in the one should correspond with that of the other. Such was the case in the 21 years from 1866 to 1887, but since 1885 our average rate of taxation has risen from \$1.25 to near the \$2.00 mark. 'As your local rate has risen to meet the requirements of modern needs, your intangibles have disappeared from your tax list. The natural honesty and patriotism of our people has not been strong enough to resist the temptation to put their assets beyond the reach of the tax collector. The taxpayer justifies his course because the law has discriminated against his intangibles.'"

One of Our Inequalities.

"According to the commission's report of 1908, the real estate was then appraised at about 70 per cent of its actual value throughout the state; but intangibles were appraised at their face value. If a man had \$1,000 in cash or notes and credits due from a solvent debtor, his list would be \$10 and he would have to pay a tax of \$18 at the average rate of \$1.80. The same thousand dollars invested in real estate would be listed at only seven dollars, and he would pay only \$12.60. To equalize the burden the intangibles should have been set in the list at 70 per cent of their value, or else the rate should have been reduced to \$1.26 on a dollar, otherwise the \$1,000 in the one case pays at the rate of \$2.57 as compared with the rate of \$1.80 in the other, for it requires a rate of \$2.57 to raise as much on a \$7 grand list as a rate of \$1.80 raises on a \$10 grand list. If the \$1,000 in each case earned six per cent, yearly, the real estate investment would net \$42.00, while the loan would net only \$34.30, a difference of \$7.70 in favor of the real estate."

"A rate of \$2.00 would confiscate 33 1/3 per cent of the income on intangibles and no taxpayer will submit to such confiscation except in the few cases in which he is compelled to do so. If a farmer were obliged to pay 33 1/3 per cent of the income of his farm in taxes, you would have a revolution. Think what would happen if every farmer had to deliver to the town treasurer every third pound of butter, every third ton of hay, and every third bushel of grain. Yet to-day you are taking nearly every third dollar of income on intangibles and in many towns every other dollar, provided your listers are able to catch the intangibles."

"But your listers find it more difficult to catch intangibles than to capture a bull moose. You cannot lure them into the tax list by a call through a birch-bark horn. They retire into the intricate and hidden recesses of the business world, more difficult to pierce than a tropical jungle. You may denounce this as dishonesty; you may increase the pains and penalties of perjury indefinitely; you may incorporate in your laws a system of espionage as Ohio has, but the fact remains that the most drastic law yet passed has failed to be a remedy."

"You have made it difficult for men to be honest, in violation of Mr. Gladstone's great maxim of statesmanship that 'you should legislate to make it easy for men to be honest.' You are dealing with hu-

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man nature as well as with theories of taxation, and the Almighty Himself could not obtain an honest list from men whose income was to be confiscated. Make your laws reasonable and your citizens will be honest.

"The one great argument used against the flat rate is that it favors the lender or the rich man. I deny it. The lender takes care of himself to-day through foreign investments and escape his just share of the public burden. The borrower is the one who is injured by our present system. Put a flat rate into your law and you would restore to him his lost opportunities. He could then obtain from his neighbors the accommodations that are necessary to his success. Then, too, transactions would be permitted that are prohibited now. The gain or advantage to the lender would be a convenience, but to the borrower it would be a benefit."

"Allow me to caution you against confounding a flat low rate with one for the abolition of offsets. The two are not identical. Under a flat low rate law, your offsets will be allowed as they are now against your tangible personal property like cows, crops and merchandise. You would simply extend your savings bank law to the individual. To-day if a man has \$1,000 in a bank, it is deducted before the allowance of his offsets. Under the proposed law, \$1,000 due from an individual on a loan would be deducted in the same way. In other words, offsets are only abolished on the intangibles subject to a flat rate."

"If you still doubt that a flat rate would be beneficial, suppose for instance that the legislature of 1910 had repealed the flat rate law by which you tax bank deposits. What would have happened? Would not at least six millions of your eighty million dollars of these deposits have taken wings and flown away like the birds at the approach of winter, but not to return in the springtime? Would not the migration become permanent? You could not have prevented it any more than you could prevent the migration of the feathered tribes. If a lister were a good shot he might get a few on the wing, but the main flock would disappear under the horizon."

"Do you need, then, to go to Maryland and Pennsylvania for a demonstration of the flat rate system of taxing intangibles? Has not this system been justified in our state, where it has been in operation on bank deposits since 1878. In 34 years these deposits have risen from eight to eighty millions, yielding a revenue to the state of over \$500,000 annually. It costs you nothing to collect it. Uncle Sam does that for a few postage stamps and the banks pay for them. The great mistake of the legislature of 1878 was that it did not extend the flat rate to all intangibles. If it had done

so, your revenue from this source would have been greater than it is; your candidates for perdition fewer; your burdens of government more justly distributed; your rate of taxation lower; and the old state, whose mountains and history excite our pride, would have been a bigger and better Vermont."

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From Charles B. Towns' "The Peril of the Drug Habit" in the August Century.

It is human nature to wish to ease pain and to stimulate ebullient vitality. There is no normal adult who, experiencing severe pain or sorrow or fatigue, and thoroughly appreciating the immediate action of an easily accessible opiate, is not likely in a moment of least resistance to take it.

Every one who has become addicted to a drug has started out with small occasional doses, and no one has expected to fall a victim to the habit; indeed, many have been totally unaware that

the medicine they were taking contained any drug whatever. Thus, the danger being one that threatens us all, it is every man's business to insist that the entire handling and sale of the drug be under as careful supervision as possible.

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